

Boston, Wed. Evng, Feb. 22. '34.

Dear Mr. Webb -

There is now one letter, from my hand to yours, half way across the Atlantic (as I hope), but - I must needs send another after it. - Miss Weston thinks that some expense to the Cause, & considerable trouble to you, may be saved, by directing our annual antislavery box to Mr. J. Powell at Liverpool, thereby saving two transportations across the Irish Channel of so much of the contents (much the larger part) as will ultimately go to the different parts of England & Scotland. This would, at first sight, appear to be quite a gain, - Mr. Powell could send off, by their several routes, all the parcels for London, Leeds, Manchester, Bristol, Glasgow, Edinburgh, &c. &c. and then send the balance to you - drawing upon you for whatever expenses he incurred thereby. - I, however, am not quite sure that the work would be equally well done in this new way. - I write therefore, to say that I shall leave the matter in your hands. Provided you think Miss W.'s plan a reliable one, you need feel under no hesitation in calling upon Powell to do this; ~~satisfying~~ you could say that you asked it, in Anne Weston's name & at her suggestion, & that you would reimburse him for his outlay. Several of the boxes, for the late Bazaars, were sent to Powell's care in Liverpool, and were forwarded by him. He needs a few words of

caution with regard to affixing a value (in
£. s. d.) to the boxes sent to us. His doing so, in
one instance (if not more) came near to ~~involving~~
making us chargeable with a very heavy duty at the
Boston Customhouse. It was his doing so, I think, in
the case of the Perth box, (which went to New York &
was entered at the C. house there), which subjected us
to the enormous duty of over \$67. on that single box!
(About the same time I got three boxes through the Boston
Customhouse, one of them the London box, the others smaller
& of less value, for less than ^{not a piece, but all,} \$20. duties.) A bill of lading
was exhibited, at the N. Y. Custom house, showing a
valuation of the box [from Perth] at ~~\$350~~ £70. This
(\$350.) was probably what the donors charitably hoped
& wished we might get! But to state this as the
value of the box was a great mistake. Indeed, it was
so manifestly too large, that the N. Y. appraiser
reduced the valuation to £40.; but even at that,
the duties & charges were, as aforesaid, over \$67. Had
all our foreign goods come in at that rate, the
Customhouse would have eaten up over \$1100. of our
receipts, instead of about \$300. as now. I have gone
over all this - perhaps to the wrong person - because it
is one which very closely affects the success of the
Bazaar, & the amount to be derived from it. Perhaps
you will ~~have~~ have an opportunity of suggesting these
things to friend Powell, whose good sense will comprehend

the whole matter at a glance. - I will, also, give him a few hints. I am owing him a letter of thanks for his kindness in forwarding several of the Bazaar boxes. By the last Mail Steamship, we sent forward some 50 or 60 copies of the Bazaar Report, in single wrappers, to different friends in G. B. & Ireland. I did not send any of the 3^d Decade Meeting Pamphlets, because of the extortionate postage charges, 30 cts. in each country, on each & every copy. - By Train's packer-ship of March 5th, ^{announced to be the "North America"} I shall send the box, directed to you. You can act your own pleasure, entirely, as to calling upon Powell to open it in Liverpool, or not. There will ^{be} ~~probably~~ several parcels ~~to remain in~~ ^{directed to} Liverpool. -

By the steamship fr. Europe, last arrived, we received the stirring news of the active preparations for immediate hostilities making in England, & especially in France. The chances of escape from a very extensive, & even a general, war seem now to be very few & very narrow. - War is an enormous evil, & in point of fact rarely accomplishes any good that might not far better have been gained in other ways. Yet, as a practical question, it appears very difficult to refrain from active measures to curb the grasping spirit of Russia; - indeed, as if it would be wrong ~~for~~ in any nation, having the power ^{to resist it,} to stand idly by, & see the triumph of Russian arms & policy.

up in my mind
ever long ago
I cannot allow it.

Our people, universally, feel a very lively interest in this question of War in Europe. —

The last Steamship brought us, too, an excellent "Advocate" — a number which increases our regard for the little paper, and our confidence that it understands its position well & occupies a field that needs to be entered & possessed. — I am glad to see the suspension of the "Watchman" spoken of as temporary — I hope it may prove so; but I hardly know where it will wish to stand, save side by side with the "Advocate". On the British India & Cotton questions, indeed, it has its own special work. I feel quite an interest in Mr. Chepman. — I was not so well pleased with the last number or two of the Brit. & Foreign A.S. Reporter. In speaking of our Philadelphia meeting it blunderingly inserts the "Declaration of Sentiments", adopted Decr. 1833, as a new instrument adopted Decr. 1853! It doesn't give a single resolution adopted by the meeting, — affords little idea of the topics or speakers, — & contents itself, for the rest, with advertising singing out two subjects (the Unitⁿ. Society at St. Louis, & the Free Labour Produce question), neither of which ^{understand} ~~was~~ any discussion, & were brought up only in the last half-hour before the final adjournment. — I was sorry to see the "Advocate" had not got the resolution adopted at Phila^a, unanimously, respecting the position of the American A.S. Society, as to the Sabbath, Bible, Church, &c. But there's time enough yet. — The Northern feeling here on Senator Douglass's "Nebraska Bill" is rising higher. But it will be of no use. In this Union, Slavery is bound to rule & conquer. Our Northern men present no alternative to the Slave Power. They denounce their schemes, but it is understood from the beginning that they will yield quietly, if conquered, & say no more about it. — "Abolition or Disunion" should have been the Doctr.

Many persons — especially among the free-Soilers — now look for, almost hope for, an intervention of Slavery. This country has too much of it now to look after, even to interfere little.